

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 008275

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: OVIP (GLIGOROV, KIRO), YO, US

SUBJECT: GLIGOROV VISIT

1. DEPARTMENT OFFICERS MET JANUARY 11 WITH PETER ABBRUZZESE  
TO GO OVER DETAILS OF THE VISIT. THE FOLLOWING POINTS  
EMERGED FROM THE MEETING:

A. FROM A LOGISTIC POINT OF VIEW, IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE TO  
POSTPONE THE ARRIVAL BY ONE WEEK. FYI: A SOVIET PARLIAMEN-  
TARY DELEGATION LED BY PONOMAREV ARRIVES JANUARY 22 AND HAS  
EXTENDED ITS STAY UNTIL FEBRUARY 2. ALTHOUGH THE SENATE  
IS HOSTING, THE STAFF SUPPORT FROM BOTH HOUSES WILL BE  
STRETCHED AND IT WOULD BE MUCH MORE CONVENIENT TO HOST  
GLIGOROV BEGINNING FEBRUARY 5. END FYI. DEPARTMENT WOULD  
APPRECIATE EMBASSY VIEWS ON THE ADVISABILITY OF PROPOSING  
A DELAY.

B. IT IS NOT CERTAIN THAT THE PRESIDENT WILL RECEIVE  
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GLIGOROV EVEN IF THE TRIP IS DELAYED. THE WHITE HOUSE HAS  
NOT RESPONDED THUS FAR TO REQUEST FOR A MEETING. AS A  
POSSIBLE FALL-BACK, DEPARTMENT AND HIRC ARE PREPARED TO  
REQUEST A MEETING WITH VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE. DEPARTMENT  
WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR VIEWS ON THE LIKELY YUGOSLAV RE-  
ACTION. FYI: YUGOSLAV POLITICAL COUNSELOR MATIC REAFF-

IRMED TODAY THAT THE CALL ON THE PRESIDENT WAS ESSENTIAL. WE INDICATED THAT WE WOULD MAKE EVERY EFFORT, BUT COULD NOT PROMISE. END FYI.

C. ON INTERNAL US TRAVEL, WE ARE STILL WORKING ON GETTING A USAF PLANE AND BELIEVE THERE IS A MEDIUM CHANCE OF SUCCESS. IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO KNOW IF THE YUGOSLAVS ARE COMPLETELY UNWILLING OR UNABLE TO USE THEIR OWN PLANE, IN CASE WE CANNOT ARRANGE AN AIR FORCE PLANE. FYI: BY WAY OF REFERENCE, CODEL ALBERT IN 1975 DID USE ITS OWN SPECIAL PLANE FOR INTERNAL TRAVEL IN YUGOSLAVIA. END FYI.

D. IT IS ESSENTIAL FOR ANY FURTHER PLANNING TO KNOW AT LEAST THE APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF THOSE COMING. IT WOULD BE HIGHLY DESIRABLE TO HAVE THE NAMES AS WELL.

E. THE PROPOSED PROGRAM IS SHAPING UP SATISFACTORILY WITH THREE FULL DAYS IN WASHINGTON (NOT INCLUDING THE SUNDAY ARRIVAL DATE), FOLLOWED BY STOPS IN ATLANTA, PHOENIX, GRAND CANYON, LOS ANGELES, SAN FRANCISCO AND CHICAGO. WE OPPOSE THE SUGGESTION FOR A HALF-DAY IN NEW ORLEANS SINCE IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO PROGRAM AND WOULD TAKE TIME WHICH COULD BE BETTER SPENT ELSEWHERE. AS PRESENTLY DRAFTED, THIS PROGRAM WOULD HAVE THE DELEGATION RETURNING CONFIDENTIAL

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TO WASHINGTON AND DEPARTING ON WEDNESDAY TEN DAYS AFTER ARRIVAL. IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO SHAVE ONE DAY FROM THIS SCHEDULE BY REVISING OR REDUCING SOME PARTS OF THE PROGRAM.

2. FUNDING HAS NOT BEEN RESOLVED, BUT ABBRUZZESE WAS CONFIDENT THAT IT WOULD BE EITHER AS A SUPPLEMENT TO THE DEPARTMENT'S BUDGET OR THROUGH A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION (AS THE SENATE ARRANGED FOR THE SOVIET DELEGATION).

3. DEPARTMENT WOULD LIKE YOUR VIEWS ON THE POINTS RAISED IN PARA 1 AS SOON AS CONVENIENTLY POSSIBLE, SINCE WE WILL BE MEETING AGAIN LATER THIS WEEK AND NEED TO WORK WITH THE YUGOSLAV EMBASSY ON THE REMAINING DETAILS.

4. CHARGE SINDJELIC IS CALLING ON DEP ASST SEC VINE JAN. 11 AT 5:30 P.M. TO GIVE US TITO'S LETTER TO THE

PRESIDENT AND TO TALK ABOUT THE GLIGOROV VISIT. WE WILL REPORT ON THIS TOMORROW. CHRISTOPHER

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**Subject:** GLIGOROV VISIT  
**TAGS:** OVIP, YO, US, (GLIGOROV, KIRO)  
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